

South Viet Nam Pledges Itself to Defeat the U.S. Aggressors and Their Henchmen

— N.F.L. and P.L.A.F. Message
to President HO CHI MINH

VIETNAM COURIER

Information Weekly — E.O. 146 Tran Hung Dao Street, Hanoi — Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

Sept. 23
1968
No 183
5th Year

Esteemed President,

RESPONDING to the appeal you made on the occasion of July 20 (anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam — E.A.) and upholding the tradition of the August Revolution — one of solidarity and of unflinching struggle — the South Viet Nam armed forces and people are dashing forward in the flush of their victories, attacking the enemy continuously, and rising up simultaneously, everywhere and here on all battlefields scored new and very great victories. Following the anniversaries of the two historic days of the nation (the August Revolution and the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam — E.A.), your message of congratulation (September 8 — E.A.) just received in South Viet Nam constitutes an invaluable encouragement and inspiration to the 14 million South Vietnamese people.

In the thick of the war and with absolute confidence in the final victory of the great struggle against the most ruthless war of aggression in history, all the South Vietnamese people, cadres and fighters attentively listen to each of your words in the message of congratulation which they regard as an acknowledgement of their merits by the Fatherland, and a great honour bestowed by the people of the whole country on South Viet Nam — the great frontline of the resistance of the whole nation to U.S. aggression and for national salvation. This acknowledgement and honour further fire our compatriots, cadres and fighters in South Viet Nam into making greater efforts to overcome all hardships and accept all sacrifices as to fulfill at all times the mission entrusted to them by the nation and history, which is to liberate the South, defend the North, and achieve the ultimate peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.

Esteemed President,

THE U.S. aggressors are losing heavily. But, cowardly and cunning by nature, they are still trying to cling to South Viet Nam and to impose neo-colonialism on the South Vietnamese people, and are going on with

the intensification of their war aggression, using masses of bombs, shells and noxious chemicals against the civilian population, the countryside and the towns. The puppet regime, in its death throes, is taking more and more fascist steps and indulges in bloody repression and massacres of the patriots in the towns and other areas still under its control. But, no more — however ruthless and cunning —, no amount of hardware, and no strategy and tactics of the enemy can save him from complete defeat. Well aware of the "nothing is more precious than independence and freedom" axiom, in the light of the fully sound and creative political and military line of the Viet Nam Revolution, equipped with the lively experiences drawn from the reality of the fight during this period of generalized offensives and widespread uprisings, and with their iron-like determination and steadfast courage, the 14 million South Vietnamese citizens, cadres and fighters are resolved to fully turn to account this big, all-round victories recorded since early spring this year, to increase their strength in every field, and to rush forward in waves of relentless offensives and concerted uprisings to gain with every means at their disposal still bigger victories.

South Viet Nam pledges itself to You and the Northern compatriots to defeat the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen the traitors, to win complete victory, wrest back the whole power for the people, and attain independence, democracy, peace, neutrality and the ultimate peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.

With your inspiring solicitude and encouragement and the wholehearted assistance of the kind-and-like compatriots of the North and the sympathy and support of friends all over the world, the South Vietnamese people, under any circumstance, will completely triumph and fulfill with honour their glorious and great duty.

We wish you good health and long life.

South Viet Nam, September 11, 1968

The President of the South Viet Nam

N.F.L. — Central Committee

The Command of the

South Viet Nam P.L.A.F.

North Viet Nam

Up to September 19, 1968

**3,171 U.S. aircraft
were downed**



No Tish province militiamen with their guns at the ready against U.S. air pirates

South Viet Nam

HEAVY ENEMY LOSSES AT TAY NINH, LOC NINH, DUC LAP AND SOUTH OF DEMILITARIZED ZONE

- * A U.S. Mixed Battalion Wiped Out at Tra Phi Base, the 4th Time Overrun by P.L.A.F.
- * An Armoured Car Park and an Airfield at Ben Cui Assaulted on the Same Day.

- * 2,600 Enemy Troops Put out of Action from Sept. 11 to 17, in Tay Ninh Sector.

- * 2 U.S. Battalions and 6 Companies Wiped Out from Sept. 11 to 14 at Loc Ninh.

- * Sar Pa Post near Duc Lap Stormed on Sept. 15.

- * 2,200 Enemy Troops Put out of Action North of Quang Tri from Sept. 1 to 16.

- * Two Generals, One American and Another of the Puppet Army, Killed and a Third One Wounded within Ten Days.

VIET NAM WAR IN THE EYE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

PHAM THANH VINH
Secretary of the Viet Nam Lawyers' Association

Editor's Note:

The Viet Nam — U.S. talks in Paris have been dragging on for more than four months because of the systematic and unjustified refusal of the U.S. to put an unconditional end to the bombings and all other acts of war against the D.R. V.N. Meanwhile, a world lawyers' conference for Viet

Nam was held in France (Grenoble) to examine in the light of international law the major problems concerning the war in Viet Nam. We have asked Mr. Pham Thanh Vinh, Secretary of the Viet Nam Lawyers' Association, to elaborate on the gist of the Grenoble conclusions. It should be recalled that the

signatories to the Grenoble documents have decided to meet again this fall. Thus the world's lawyers have proved quite active and vigorous in their support to the fight of the Vietnamese people for the defence of their fundamental rights which are also those of all peoples in the world.

(Pages 4-5)

THE Extraordinary Conference of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organisation for Support to, and Solidarity with, the Vietnamese People against the U.S. Imperialist Aggression, which met in Cairo from September 7 to 9, 1968, approved at its closing session a political resolution, an appeal and a program of action in support of Viet Nam.

The Political resolution reads:

"1. The conference thoroughly and fully supports the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression, for the defense of their fundamental national rights, independence, sovereignty and territorial unity and integrity. The conference, representing eighty and a half million people, recognizes that this legitimate struggle is the inalienable right of the whole Vietnamese people to self-defense, and at the same time, an important contribution to the common cause of the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the rest of the world fighting against imperialism, old and new colonialism, and by the U.S. imperialists and for national independence, democracy, peace and social progress.

"2. The conference warmly bids the great victories, especially those achieved since early Spring 1968 by the armed forces and people in both North and South Viet Nam. These victories strikingly point to the undauntedness and heroism of the Vietnamese people and constitute a shining example for various peoples fighting for their liberation, against aggression and oppression by the imperialists and the U.S. aggressors. The conference warmly bids the founding of the South Viet Nam National Democratic and Peace Forces of Viet Nam.

"3. The conference fully recognizes the just position of the Vietnamese people as stipulated in the four points

of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Political Program of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation. This position is consistent with the fundamental principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and with the practical situation of the Viet Nam. It constitutes the basis and the indispensable condition for the Viet Nam problem.

"4. The conference warmly bids the just position and serious attitude of the Vietnamese people and the U.S. government at the official conversations in Paris.

"5. The conference sternly condemns the U.S. aggressive war in South Viet Nam, the U.S. war of destruction in North Viet Nam and U.S. business crimes in the whole country. It strongly condemns the obscene attitude and perfidious manoeuvres of the U.S. government representative at the Paris official conversations.

"6. The U.S. government of aggression put an end to its war of aggression in Viet Nam, stop unconditionally and definitively its bombing raids and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N., withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, recognize the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation as the genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people and enter into peace talks with the N.F.L. on problems concerning the South Viet Nam. Vietnamese people settle themselves their

A. A. P. S. O. Confab Passes

"Support Viet Nam" Political Resolution

Internal affairs, without foreign interference. "The U.S. government must adopt a serious attitude at the Paris conversations, first and foremost by unconditionally stopping the bombing raids and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N., so that the conversations can proceed to other questions of concern to both sides.

"5. While deeply appreciating the importance of the movement to support the D.R.V.N., the conference calls on the peoples of Asia, Africa, and all over the world to further strengthen the movement to support the Vietnamese people's struggle against the U.S. aggressors for national salvation, further assist the Vietnamese people and all other acts of war against the U.S. aggressors, and greater pressure to the U.S. government to stop the Vietnamese people defeat totally the U.S. aggression and thus fulfill their noble international duty and contribute to the just cause of the Vietnamese people which is also the common cause of the Afro-Asian peoples and all freedom and peace-loving peoples and all other acts of war against the U.S. aggressors. The conference expresses its firm conviction that with the strength of national unity and independence, freedom, peace, and reunification of the country and with the strong support and support of the socialist countries, the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the whole progressive mankind.

including the progressive American people, the heroic Vietnamese people will surely defeat the U.S. aggressors, achieve total victory in their struggle to stop the North, liberate the South and realize the reunification of Viet Nam."

In its appeal, the conference called on all progressive democratic organizations to co-ordinate actions and resort to suitable forms of struggle to furtherance of the general political resolution and the program of action unanimously passed by the conference, especially during the Weeks of Solidarity with the Vietnamese people beginning October 15, 1968 and December 20, 1968, in order to instill a vigorous spirit into the world people's movement of support for the Vietnamese people and contribute to the final victory of the Vietnamese people over the U.S. aggressors.

The conference's program of action in support of Viet Nam listed a wide range of protest actions against the U.S. aggression in Viet Nam, including the sending of a delegation of the A.A.P.S.O. and its member countries to Paris to back the D.R.V.N. The conference's representative and protest against the U.S. government's representative, the Thieu-Kieu puppet administration, and the death of South Vietnamese hero Nguyen Van Trui (October 15-17) and the celebrations of the founding anniversary of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation (December 20).

In escalating their war of aggression against the D.R.V.N., the U.S. aggressors, who are even more wicked than the Devil, have plotted to destroy the fruits of our people's labour including hundreds of old churches restored after the conclusion of the war against the French before the U.S. aggressors. So many refurbished statues of saints and other objects of worship have been destroyed or damaged. These offences of the U.S. aggressors have shed a lurid light on the fallacy of their allegation that they only strike at military targets. As Saint Paulus has said: "Superfluous pietas est pulvis cinis, simul rursus dolores asperies: venenum aspidum et labris aspidum" (Rome 111, 13). Their throat is an open grave, their tongue takes deception, their lips are like a venomous asp.

Revolted by the barbarities of the U.S. aggressors who have encroached upon the independence and freedom of their fatherland, on their peaceful life and their places of worship, our Vietnamese Catholic folk, like the rest of our people, have risen up one man to save the country, their families and their religion. In the southern part of the country, once again against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, the Vietnamese Catholics can pride themselves on their many contributions to the common cause. In the history of the Vietnamese church, never as today have there been so many good deeds and so many examples of self-sacrifice for the independence and freedom of the country, for the flourish of Christianity.

As the U.S. is the aggressor of Viet Nam, it has to put an end to its aggression. Security has been brought to North Viet Nam, it must bring to an unconditional halt its bombing and other acts of war on the whole territory of the D.R.V.N., pull out all U.S. and satellite troops and leave the South Viet Nam people to settle their own affairs without foreign interference.

THE NORTH - GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM CATHOLICS in the Resistance Against U.S. Aggression, for National Salvation

Rev. VU XUAN KY

Chairman of the National Liaison Committee of Vietnamese Patriotic and Peace-Loving Catholics

In the countryside, almost all Catholic parishes have joined agricultural co-operatives. Thanks to the collective mode of production and the technical improvement, rice output has been increasing year after year. Many Catholic co-operatives have reached 1 to 2 tons of paddy per hectare in a year in excess of the 5-ton mark set by the state for all co-ops. In six districts of the Binh Chua diocese, the biggest Catholic community in Nam H.L. province as well as in North Viet Nam, 1967 all agricultural co-ops reached or even surpassed the 5-ton mark.

The major fishing areas and salt marshes in North Viet Nam are also areas with a big Catholic population. In spite of intensive enemy air and naval bombardments which, in some places, averaged 50 daily, the Catholics continue to cling to the sea and fish and produce salt. While the fish market is kept at the level of the years before the U.S. started its war of destruction, salt output in 1967 went up by 125% above plan, topping even the peak years in peace time.

Along with the production efforts, a movement to join the army or serve national defence, communications and transport, has been surging among the Catholic youth. In all parishes, send-off festivals have been held for young members of their flocks going to the battlefield. In Nghe An province, thousands of Catholic youth

have signed applications for military duty in their own blood. In Hamlet H. in Nam Ha province with only 75 families, more than 100 young men of the Catholic community asked to join the army. Tens of thousands of young Catholics have so far joined the army and brought a young volunteer to fight U.S. aggression, for national salvation, many families have allowed 3, even 4 of their sons to join up.

All able-bodied persons who stay back are members of the militia, doing equally well in production jobs and in the fight against U.S. aircraft. For the defence of their homes, their fields and their churches.

Repeated crash courses were offered for teachers. Regular courses in arithmetic, medicine, physical training and sports music and dance were organized to promote education in all respects. In Nam Ha province, the Ministry of the Interior has decided the intensification of U.S. bombings, new teachers' schools, rest establishments

lowlands and in the highlands. A new teachers' complementary education school in North Viet Nam operated before the academic year 1968-69, the fourth "Fight Against U.S. Aggression and for National Salvation Year."

Infant classes, pre-school classes, and pre-employment education courses also opened. Compared with 1966-67, the number of infant classes and infant schoolchildren rose respectively to 3,500 and 165,000 and that of pre-school classes and pre-employment education to 3,797 and 198,000.

In summer, the administrative organs, first and foremost the education department and local people, made headway in preparing to enable the new classes to function. Repeated crash courses were offered for teachers. Regular courses in arithmetic, medicine, physical training and sports music and dance were organized to promote education in all respects. In Nam Ha province, the Ministry of the Interior has decided the intensification of U.S. bombings, new teachers' schools, rest establishments

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PARS TALKS' 22nd SESSION

THE 22nd session of the official conversations between the representatives of the D.R.V.N. Government and the representatives of the U.S. Government was convened in Paris on September 18.

Taking the floor first, U.S. representative Cyrus repeated the slanderous charge against the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation that it was "set up and controlled by Hanoi and is a brazenly distorted history and facts in an attempt to hoodwink public opinion and mask the U.S. aggression in Viet Nam. He also asserted himself to justify the U.S. stubborn balking of the unconditional cessation of the bombing raids and all other acts of war on the whole territory of the D.R.V.N."

Speaking in his turn, Minister of State Xuan Tuy pointed out that parallel to repeated appeals for de-escalation and "efforts towards peace," the U.S. government has since September 31, 1968 been stepping up its war of aggression in Viet Nam. In the North, the U.S. air and naval forces of destruction conducted by U.S. air and naval forces have been continuously pushed up. Viciously, U.S. aircraft have been attacking dykes and hydraulic works which are of particular importance in the current rainy season. In the South, the U.S. imperialists have been mounting terrorist raids on the people's ranks and demilitarized zone and in areas around cities and towns and carrying out wanton B-52 bombings of densely populated

areas right on the fringe of Saigon.

Referring to U.S. President Johnson's September 10 statement which tried to justify the U.S. policy of war and aggression in Viet Nam and claimed that the restoration of the demilitarized zone was the key problem for peace in Viet Nam, Vietnamese envoy remarked: "The U.S. Government tries to induce people to believe that the war in Viet Nam is a war between the two sides of Viet Nam, stemming from the 'aggression' of the South Viet Nam against the North Viet Nam. This is a war of resistance against the U.S. aggression against the Vietnamese people against the U.S. troops of aggression who have come to Viet Nam by air and by sea from across the Pacific. The way the U.S. has put the problem also betrays its dark design to isolate the parties to Viet Nam, in order to contravene the letter and spirit of the Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam."

The D.R.V.N. chief negotiator said that the "de-Americanization" of the war in Viet Nam advocated by the U.S. side is in fact tantamount to continuation of its war of aggression, with the aim of bringing the puppet army and administration. It is for that reason that the U.S. has been doing everything in its power to pump up the puppet army's morale and to also pointed to the ignominious retreat of the U.S. B-52 war moves and the increased awakening of peo-

ple to U.S. aggression have pointed in the National Front for Liberation to resist the U.S. aggressors and save the country. That is just like the Vietnamese people."

Mr. Xuan Tuy declared that "if the U.S. really respects the right to self-determination of the Vietnamese people, why does it not withdraw its troops from South Viet Nam and let the South Vietnamese people decide their internal affairs? On the contrary, the U.S. is stubbornly holding on to South Viet Nam and maintaining the Saigon puppet administration. This only shows that the U.S. completely disregards the right to self-determination of the South

Viet Nam people and intention to prolong the partition of Viet Nam. Once again, Mr. Xuan Tuy exposed the traitorous and anti-popular nature of the Thieu-Kieu puppet administration, and stressed in conclusion: "As the U.S. is the aggressor of Viet Nam, it has to put an end to its aggression. Security has been brought to North Viet Nam, it must bring to an unconditional halt its bombing and other acts of war on the whole territory of the D.R.V.N., pull out all U.S. and satellite troops and leave the South Viet Nam people to settle their own affairs without foreign interference."

Programs of THE VOICE OF VIET NAM for listeners in North America and Northern Europe

THE VOICE OF VIET NAM is broadcasting in English daily:

FOR NORTH AMERICA
- At 9:10 and 10:45 p.m. (EST) on 31 metres, 9.535 KCs
- At 11:40 p.m. (EST) on 10 metres, 6.135 KCs
and 2:40 a.m. (EST) on 31 metres, 9.535 KCs.

FOR EUROPE
- At 4:40 p.m. (EST), that is 21:30 (GMT), on 19 metres, 15.330 KCs.

Refuting the fallacious allegations of Mr. Cyrus Vance, the Vietnamese representative said: "It is in the Vietnamese people's age-old tradition to oppose imperialism, to fight against foreign aggression and to defend their own country. Viet Nam at present, the people of all strata who are op-

THE NORTH - GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM CATHOLICS Term Starts in Stirring Mood

In mid-September, over 10,000 general education schools in North Viet Nam began the academic year 1968-69, the fourth "Fight Against U.S. Aggression and for National Salvation Year."

Infant classes, pre-school classes, and pre-employment education courses also opened. Compared with 1966-67, the number of infant classes and infant schoolchildren rose respectively to 3,500 and 165,000 and that of pre-school classes and pre-employment education to 3,797 and 198,000.

In summer, the administrative organs, first and foremost the education department and local people, made headway in preparing to enable the new classes to function. Repeated crash courses were offered for teachers. Regular courses in arithmetic, medicine, physical training and sports music and dance were organized to promote education in all respects. In Nam Ha province, the Ministry of the Interior has decided the intensification of U.S. bombings, new teachers' schools, rest establishments

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exercise of their rights, and the evident

parity pioneers, renowned barriers coming from more than 40 countries with different, even antagonistic political systems, including belligerent countries, and 100 American and French lawyers. Meeting mostly for the first time, they nevertheless were unanimous in their decision to support the Appeal, four Resolutions by four commissions in charge of the four principal items on the agenda and a Resolution on the role of the press in the defence of the decisions in effect. At a time when U.S. bad faith in the Paris talks was rampant, the Appeal pulled together the eyes of the world's peoples on the truth in Viet Nam and the true sense of international law, the Grenoble document, the American thesis and an eloquent plea for the Vietnamese position.

them. The delegation of Japanese lawyers headed by Professor Hasegawa Maayasu of the Nagoya University, presented two long reports, one on the "War Crimes of the U.S. Armed Conflict in Viet Nam" and the other, prepared by the Japanese Lawyers' International Liaison Association, on the "War Crimes of the So-called 'Tokin Goli Incident'".

The Cambodian lawyer, deputy law councillor to the Cambodian Embassy in France, Mr. Ong Khuy Treng, forcefully denounced what he termed "U.S. aggression in Viet Nam". He took the floor to denounce the U.S. lawyer and citizen of a country firmly resolved to pursue its neutral and peaceful policy, which lies next door to the conflict and has received many respects from it. Mr. Ong Khuy Treng affirmed in the strongest terms: "The United States is eloquently proved by many speakers to be a country in which many speakers have said that this country which has violated and is violating more and more systematically the rights of the people of the United States. We know quite well that the United States is a country which has violated and is violating more and more systematically the rights of the people of the United States. We know quite well that the United States is a country which has violated and is violating more and more systematically the rights of the people of the United States."

gave an illustration, as R. Falk himself put it, of the "non-passivity of the world's peoples in the common struggle of all peoples."

Other eminent lawyers also made valuable contributions to the Grenoble meeting, such as Dr. Pritt, renowned British lawyer, Professor Henri Rolin,

SECOND

**THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE
IN THE LIGHT OF THE**

IN his first declarations at the Paris

talks, the U.S. representative did not cease repeating the theme that "the U.S. stands for self-determination of the South Vietnamese people without foreign interference and oppression" (1). He even put forward the "one man, one vote" solution. He claimed that the half million G.I.s in South Vietnam are there to defend the self-determination of the South Vietnamese people threatened by the Northern "Communists" invasion and subversion. This false contention is part of the artificial neo-colonialist part of the

Belgian Minister of State, and M. Beyens N'Diaye, Prosecutor of the Republic of Senegal. The French lawyer took part in the proceedings as an active role in the drafting of the Final Declaration and the Resolution of the first commission.

The joint efforts of world-famous and distinguished jurists and the conference reached correct and conclusions on the first item of the agenda:

On the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people: "It (the Commission) has decided to recognize the right of the Vietnamese people to national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and the age-old and indivisible right of the Vietnamese nation (Declaration).

On the nature of the war and its

In his Report that followed the basic Report submitted by the head of the lawyers' delegation of South Viet Nam (N.F.L.), Academician G. Tunkin clearly shows that the Viet Nam situation clearly shows that on the part of the U.S.S.R. it is a question of realizing the right of self-determination. "The struggle, first political then military, waged over the past fourteen years by the people in Viet Nam against the U.S. neo-colonial regime, is but a concrete expression of the struggle for the

administration is supplied by the N.F.L. whose military victories over an adversary using considerable material means, and the support of the N.F.L. by the Vietnamese population, the Vietnamese government and support of the people. This support has found a more and spectacular confirmation in the fact that the N.F.L. is now completely controlled by the invaders." The Resolution also noted that the N.F.L. displayed political forces extremely diverse, and that the N.F.L. was a "vehicle for national independence."

On the basis of these conclusions on the non-effectiveness, non-representativeness and dependence of the Saigon government, the Resolution stated that the N.F.L. would be effective, representativeness and independence of the N.F.L., the Resolution appreciated the legitimacy and the fundamental principle of the independence of the N.F.L. Republic.

The Resolution of the Fourth Communist Congress on this issue was based on sound principles:

"Firstly, no government has the right to force its nationals to commit a crime.

"Secondly, it is now established that

CONFIDENTIAL in the nonmedium of their conclusions and the inviolable force of the right of the people prevail over the law of force established by the United States, the world's lawyers declared in Grenoble that "it (the Conference) condemns the war of aggression conducted by the United States in Viet Nam in violation of international law and urges from the United States government:

(1) The immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the aerial and naval bombardments and all other acts of war

things, the N.F.L. sets forth, with view to gradual reunification, a political program for an independent, democratic, peaceful and neutral South Viet Nam, expression of the right to self-determination of the Vietnamese people in the South."

By combining these two indisputable principles in the legal as well as moral aspects, in particular after the painful experiences of mankind in the two

4) Withdrawal of all troops of the United States and its allies from the territory of South Viet Nam.

5) Recognition of the N.F.L. as the authentic representative of the South Viet Nam people in its liberation struggle.

.....

ated by all the progressive forces throughout the world will end in victory, us making a great contribution to the struggle of all peoples in the world for

THE U.S. war crimes in Viet Nam were carefully examined and vigorously condemned by the Bertrand Russell International Tribunal of human conscience, the International Permanent Commission on Crimes Against the Civilians of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, and by many other international and national organizations from the East to the West. The Gremble Conference considered it particularly heinous that the war crimes perpetrated by the United States in its desperate death bed struggle faced with the generalized offensives and widespread uprisings mounted against it by the armed forces of the U.N. and the people of South Viet Nam.

strength the facts provided by the Vietnamese lawyers coupled with an exhibition of photos and film projections, the Resolution recognized that the forces of aggression apart from the United States, had been responsible for the parallel barbarity also aimed at the spiritual, family, cultural, economic and political life of the Vietnamese national group. One is witnessing deliberate and intentional terror and extermination of Vietnamese people, and the United States, to force the latter, by trying to break its moral resistance, to submit definitively to foreign domination. This policy has assumed a still more intense and odious character since January 1973, when the United States has resumed the South Viet Nam people, chiefly in

The towns and cities which the forces of aggression themselves consider to be their own strongholds and which have been subjected to more and more massive attacks, regard as the seat of the density of the population or the historic character of the places."

The Resolution also exposed "the fallacious character of those arguments by which the U.S. forces tried to free themselves from their responsibility for the crimes," such as the "civil war" theory, the "unprovoked attack" theory, the "aggression directed, planned, conducted and financed by the United States), or the "good will," "restraint," and "unilateral de-escalation" allegations (which in reality is in fact a camouflaged intensification of the aggression).

With these conclusions on the fourth point of its agenda, the world's lawyers

tion in Viet Nam and taking the defence of the Vietnamese people whose struggle for their own fundamental national rights has been unanimously considered by the world's lawyers in Grecooble "a fundamental element for the defence of freedom and equality of the peoples and the rights of the peoples to self-determination in the world."

His first declarations at the Paris talks, the U.S. representative did not cease repeating the theme that the U.S. was for self-determination of the South Vietnamese people, free of foreign interference and oppression (1). He even put forward the "one man one vote" solution. He claimed that the U.S. must not allow the North Vietnamese to be used as a tool. Nam are there to defend the self-determination of the South Vietnamese people threatened by the Northern "communist" invasion and subversion. This false contentment of the artificial neo-colonialist "existence of

two Viet Nams (North and South)" "cynicism which has been branded by the American lawyer R. Falk as "grotesque" and "absurd." The American neo-colonialist cynism has gone so far as to attempt to metamorphose the G.I.s and U.S. satellites into "companions-in-arms" of the South Vietnamese people and into "foreign" elements their kith and kin whom they label "communist" or "communist-led" North Vietnamese. If the U.S. government and its representative in Paris have been compelled to speak of self-determination, that

In this sense, the Resolution of the Third Commission on this subject also took a form which is both systematic and up-to-date. It recognized that "the United States is in fact committing its Viet Nam crimes of aggression against the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people, crimes against peace, crimes against mankind, crimes of genocide and war crimes."

The Resolution also exposed "the fallacious character of those arguments by which the U.S. forces tried to free themselves from their responsibility for these crimes," such as the "civil war" theme (which is rather a war of aggression directed, planned, conducted and financed by the United States), or the "good will," "restraint" and "unilateral de-escalation" allegations (which de-escalation is in fact a camouflaged intensification with a growing will of extermination and destruction, and constitutes actually a real escalation).



Anti-Viet Nam war demonstrators

ustration in San Francisco

Anti-Viet Nam war demonstration in San Francisco

VIET NAM AND THE WORLD AT LARGE

Reunion Communist Party Delegation Friendship Visit to D.R.V.N.

At the invitation of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, a delegation of the Reunion Communist Party led by Comrade Paul Verges, Secretary General of the Party, paid a friendship visit to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam from August 31 to September 10, 1968. The delegation includes Comrades: Maurice Labenne, member of the Political Bureau, Secretary of the Central Committee; Laurence Verges, member of the Central Committee, member of the Editorial Board of the daily *Trotsky*, central organ of the Reunion Communist Party.

The delegation visited a number of industrial, agricultural, cultural and social establishments, had interviews with leaders of the Viet Nam Federation of Trade Unions and the Viet Nam Women's Union, called at the Permanent Representation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation in North Viet Nam. It also visited Hai Phong port city and the Hong Quang coal-mine area. Everywhere the delegation was received very warmly by Vietnamese cadres and people of various levels.

The delegation of the Reunion Communist Party was received by Comrade Ho Chi Minh, President of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, who had with it a cordial conversation.

The delegation of the Reunion Communist Party was also received by the delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party headed by Comrade Le Duan, First Secretary of the Central Committee, held talks in a

cordial and friendly atmosphere. The two delegations had an exchange of views on the strengthening of the friendly relations of each respective Parties and of mutual support for the revolutionary struggle of the Vietnamese people.

On September 1, a communiqué of the delegation of the Reunion Communist Party to the D.R.V.N. was made public in Hanoi. It reads as follows:

"In visits, interviews and the talks brought to the delegation of the Reunion Communist Party a full realization of the great successes recorded by the Vietnamese people in their war of resistance against the American imperialists, for national salvation, as well as of the tremendous progress of the building of socialism in North Viet Nam. It has also got a clear picture of the utterly barbarous crime of aggression committed by American imperialism in Viet Nam."

"The delegation warmly greets the resounding victories recorded by the People's Liberation Armed Forces and the South Viet Nam people in their successive waves of offensives and uprisings since early this year."

"The Delegation of the Reunion Communist Party expresses its firm conviction that, under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the South Viet Nam people constitutes a positive contribution to the common struggle on the strength of Africa and the world against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress."

Vietnamese people will undoubtedly defeat the U.S. aggression. To their valorous fighting spirit, and high appreciation of the imaginative of the Vietnamese people in dealing with very hard problems of the fighting and production. The visit of the Reunion Communist Party to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

"On behalf of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, a delegation of the Reunion Communist Party led by Comrade Paul Verges, Secretary General of the Party, paid a great appreciation of the Vietnamese people's resistance war against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, and its warm support to the building of socialism in North Viet Nam. This support constitutes a splendid manifestation of the proletarian internationalism of the Reunion Communist Party and a powerful encouragement for the Vietnamese people in their struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggression."

"The delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party feels greatly aided at the success achieved by the Reunion Communist Party."

"The delegation warmly supports the revolutionary struggle of the Reunion Communist Party which is to unite all the democratic forces and the Reunion working class and people with a view to the autonomy of the Reunion and the ultimate liberation of this country from the domination of French colonialism. The revolutionary struggle of the Reunion people constitutes a positive contribution to the common struggle on the strength of Africa and the world against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress."

A New Token of Viet Nam Cuba Militant Solidarity

At the invitation of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, a delegation of the Reunion Communist Party led by Comrade Paul Verges, Secretary General of the Party, paid a visit to the D.R.V.N. from September 3 to 16, 1968.

The delegation visited a number of industrial, cultural and social establishments and called at the Permanent Representation of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. in North Viet Nam. It also visited Nam Ha and Quang Binh provinces and Hai Phong port city. Everywhere it went, it was given a fraternal welcome by the local cadres and people.

The Cuban delegation was received by President Ho Chi Minh who had a hearty talk with them. It held talks in a cordial and friendly atmosphere with a delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam led by Comrade Doan, member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, and Comrade Tran, member of the Party Central Committee, with whom views were exchanged on the strength of the friendship between the two countries and on questions of interest to both sides.

The friendship visit of the Cuban Party and Government delegation to the Viet Nam Workers' Party and Government delegation

expressed admiration for the Vietnamese people's valorous fighting spirit, and high appreciation of the imaginative of the Vietnamese people in dealing with very hard problems of the fighting and production. The visit of the Reunion Communist Party to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

The Vietnamese delegation warmly welcomed the achievements of the Cuban people under the leadership of the Communist Party and Revolutionary Government of Cuba headed by Comrade Fidel Castro, and its warm support against all intervention of U.S. imperialism, to defend the Cuban people's socialist economy in Cuba and in the vigorous support for the national liberation movement in Latin America. It was pleased that still greater successes were awaiting the Cuban people.

It also voiced its deep gratitude to the people, Communist Party and Revolutionary Government of Cuba for their heartfelt and disinterested assistance to the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, and to the Cuban people for their socialist construction in North Viet Nam.

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The friendship visit of the Cuban Party and Government delegation to the Viet Nam Workers' Party and Government delegation

VIET NAM CATHOLICS... A Puppet Battalion Refuses Battle

(Continued from page 3)

Village P. lying on the bank of the Ganh River, Quang Binh province, has been subject to many air attacks. The village has virtually been razed to the ground. Yet the Catholics, predominantly Catholic, continue to stick to their land to carry on production, taking advantage of short spells between the enemy raids to grow and tend their crops. Rice and sweet potatoes continue to thrive, the children continue to attend classes and the churches continue their regular services. The local militia has about a U.S. plane. As tribute to their contribution to the anti-U.S. resistance, the Government has awarded 150 certificates of merits and to medals to various communists and individuals in the village. The population of neighboring areas gave the village the worthy name of "steel bastion on the bank of the Ganh River." H.L. another predominantly Catholic village situated on the coast of Nam Ha province, has been bombed round the clock by U.S. jets. The village has not been disrupted and the local militia has shot down several U.S. planes. The local militia, a 19-year-old Catholic militia-woman in Quang Binh province, has shot down by herself a U.S. plane with 13 rounds of infantry gun.

In the midst of war, the material and spiritual life of our Catholic folks in, on the whole, assured and even improved. Religious services are not neglected because of the war. Religious observances have not been performed not only on major Christian holy days but also daily. The only difference now is that to suit the wartime conditions and as a precaution against enemy attacks, the Catholics often change the places and schedules of their religious services. To provide more security for the attendants, solid air raid shelters have been built wherever masses are held.

Enjoying an ever better material life and the full liberty to practice their religion, our Catholic folks are making new achievements more and more noteworthy deeds in the common movements of the North Vietnamese people to build modern Vietnam with "three readinesses": youth (1), "three readinesses": women (2), "three readinesses": old men and women (3) and "good neighbors and nice of Uncle Ho." In the past year, in the Hai Chi diocese in Nam Ha province and the Hanoi diocese alone, families were recognized as "model families" in the anti-U.S. resistance, for national salvation. Many Catholics, old and young, have been awarded medals by the Government, or badges bearing President Ho's portrait. Worthy of note is that among the recipients of these honors are a priest, a nun, a layman, a woman, a child, and a soldier.

The Catholic clergy has also made worthy contributions to the common struggle. Besides their religious duties, the Catholic priests have actively engaged the measures of the Christian community in their production and fighting tasks. Many have overcome dangers and hardships and reach places not regularly reached by enemy forces to give assistance.

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administered blessings to the Catholic brethren. On the other hand during their conferences at the provincial as well as central levels, the priests have enthusiastically made suggestions on ways and means to better serve anti-U.S. resistance. In particular, recently four Catholic priests took a direct part in the fight against the enemy at any place as required by the Fatherland.

All this is a credit to the Catholic church in North Viet Nam. More than ever, we Catholics are confident that under the "determined to fight and to win" banner of President Ho Chi Minh, the resistance against U.S. aggression, for national salvation of our people will win complete victory, and our Christian faith will shine for ever in the common glory of the nation.

(1) Ready: to fight (American aggression), fight against and join the army. (2) to surround all difficulties, to overcome all difficulties, to study in any circumstances, and to assume any task and go to any place the Fatherland wants them to. (3) Responsibility: in production, in family tasks, in fighting, in defense, to organize family life so as to help production. (4) to take part in A.A. defense action so as to serve the fighting. (5) to contribute to organize life village or city district.

From April To August 1968, 40 Mutinies and Uprisings Took Place in the Puppet Army

On September 4, the 400-strong Regiment 1 of the puppet Phung Frey reported. With 15 cases, Mekong Delta ranked first. Then came the Binh Thuan area (5 northernmost provinces of South Viet Nam). Two cases. Two cases took place on May 5 and 8 in the vicinity of Saigon. It is worth noting that 5 mutinies were staged among the units of puppet Division 21, stationed in the region of Qui Nhon, the record number of riots in any puppet division.

been recorded in four months up to the end of last August, 40 mutinies and uprisings were reported. With 15 cases, Mekong Delta ranked first. Then came the Binh Thuan area (5 northernmost provinces of South Viet Nam). Two cases. Two cases took place on May 5 and 8 in the vicinity of Saigon. It is worth noting that 5 mutinies were staged among the units of puppet Division 21, stationed in the region of Qui Nhon, the record number of riots in any puppet division.



Hue city Liberation fighters in action

MILITARY OPERATIONS

(Continued from page 8)
in a fierce two-hour battle; 600 American casualties. On Sept. 14, intercepted on Highway No. 13, U.S. reinforcement column lost 2 companies wiped out and 30 tanks and M-113 armored cars destroyed. Thus in 4 days, from

Sept. 11 to 14, in 10 engagements in that locality, 3 U.S. battalions and 6 companies and one platoon company were put out of action (1,600 men) including the commander of U.S. Division 1 and a Lieutenant Colonel. 35 American destroyed and 8 choppers downed.

carrying a puppet general and an American colonel who, as reported in our last issue, were killed with their cohorts.

The battle around Duc Lap has been raging since one month and between Sept. 8 and 15, the P.L.A.F. destroyed two puppet battalions.

Sar Pa post, 4 km southwest of Duc Lap was taken on Sept. 15; 1 puppet companies wiped out.

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE P.L.A.F.

Saigon Area: In two engagements on September 5 against units of U.S. Para Division 101, the regional troops of Cu Chi district put out of action 200 G.I.s, downed 2 choppers 30 km northwest of Saigon.

In the city the P.L.A.F. blew up on Sept. 6 the information hall of the 5th district. The following day, they destroyed a jeep and killed three of its passengers in a busy street. A depot of material and the H.Q. of Chiang Kai-shek's spies in the 6th district.

Da Nang Region: About 20 km south of the city, a company of U.S. Marines was wiped out and another decimated on Sept. 10. 17 km south of Da Nang, Western approach, the losses on September 17 of the puppet battalion 30. Several officers were killed, wounded or missing.

THE Third National Alliance Political Conference of the No Lao Patriotic Front) and the Lao patriotic neutralist forces held in a free area of Laos on September 7, Khammou Pathet Lao (KPL) reported.

His opening speech, Prince Souphanouvong, Chairman of the N.L.H. Central Committee emphasized the significance of the Conference. He said:

"Three years ago, also in this revolutionary base our two revolutionary parties solemnly held the first conference at which we reaffirmed the imperative, practical necessity of a union and close and lasting co-operation between the two parties and set to ourselves common tasks in our fight against the U.S. imperialists and their tool."

"Ever since, our two parties have been standing shoulder to shoulder in the nation-wide bloc of unity of the entire people, and have been joining hands in carrying out these common tasks. As a result, we have won one big victory after another."

"At times when the scales in favour of the Lao patriotic forces are among those standing in the

THIRD NATIONAL ALLIANCE POLITICAL CONFERENCE MEETS

frontline of the world's peoples' struggle against U.S. imperialism.

"Now, we meet again at a time when very important changes have taken place, when the fate of our Fatherland, in our country, our enemy has been so severely affected, and we are attacking the adversary on all battlefields."

"I hope that with the deep sense of our duty toward our country, our revolution, our people and mutual confidence, the conference will analyze the current situation, and correctly map out the tasks for each of the parties to fulfill."

"We will do our utmost for the success of the conference and the common tasks set by our people and our Fatherland, as well as our obligations towards the world's peaceful, independent,

revolution, and most immediately, that of Southeast Asia."

Speaking next, Khammou Keola, neutralist minister in the Lao national coalition government, expressed his great gratification at the convening of the conference, and his firm belief that the conference would strengthen the solidarity between the two revolutionary parties of Laos and encourage them to push forward toward yet greater victories.

He also voiced gratitude to Prince Souphanouvong and his Lao Hukar Central Committee for their heartfelt assistance which had enabled the Lao patriotic neutralist forces to grow up, develop, and take the initiative."

"We will do our utmost for the success of the conference and the common tasks set by our people and our Fatherland, as well as our obligations towards the world's peaceful, independent,

neutral, democratic, unified and prosperous Laos."

In the afternoon, the conference heard an important political report by Prince Souphanouvong and another report by Colonel Deussane Sannalat, commander-in-chief of the Lao patriotic neutralist armed forces and General Khammou Boupha, commander of the Lao patriotic neutralist forces in Upper Laos, on the close co-operation between the two revolutionary forces, and the growth of the Lao patriotic neutralist forces.

After 7 days of discussion in an atmosphere of wholehearted co-operation, the conference ended in success on September 13.

Unity was reached on all matters. At the closing session, the conference unanimously approved two important documents—a resolution and a

statement on the present situation and the tasks of all the Lao patriotic forces.

The conference also sent a message to the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Lao patriotic neutralist forces in Upper Laos, on the close co-operation between the two revolutionary forces, and the growth of the Lao patriotic neutralist forces.

Representing the Lao patriotic neutralist forces, Khammou Keola took the floor to lay stress on the necessity of strengthening the solidarity, co-operation and mutual assistance between the two revolutionary parties of Laos and the Lao patriotic neutralist forces in Upper Laos, on the close co-operation between the two revolutionary forces, and the growth of the Lao patriotic neutralist forces.

Other delegates went up to the stage to express their solidarity with the conference and their support for the national-wide struggle against U.S. aggression and for the victory for the struggle against the U.S. imperialists and their Lao quislings.

WESTERN HIGH PLATEAUX

1,800 Enemy Troops Put out of Action, 113 Vehicles Destroyed, 34 Planes and Helicopters Downed or Destroyed in the First Half of Sept. Sar Pa Post, Near Duc Lap, Overrun and 2 Companies Wiped Out.

In the provinces of Kontum, Gien and Dak Lak (Western High Plateaux), 1,800 enemy troops including 500 G.I.s, downed or destroyed 113 vehicles including 50 tanks and 34 planes and helicopters.

Press Agency reported. All the enemy's personnel, weapons and three airfields were heavily bombarded.

In Kontum province, from Sept. 11 to 14, 12 choppers were downed and on September 15, 10 choppers were downed and on September 15, 10 choppers were downed and on September 15, 10 choppers were downed.

Military Operations

THE P.L.A.F. continued to hammer at the enemy concentrations at Tay Ninh and Loc Ninh, respectively 83km and 180km north of Saigon. American and puppet troops suffered heavy losses in fierce battles in which the patriots displaying a great skill destroyed fortified camps and inter-occupied heavily scorched road convoys.

The P.L.A.F. also achieved substantial successes in the Western High Plateau (region of Duc Lap) where the fighting had been going on since August 83, and south of the demilitarized zone still imperiously violated by the U.S. forces.

TAY NINH

— Tra Phi Base Wiped Out the 4th Time: a U.S. Mixed Battalion Put out of Action, 400 G.I.'s Killed or Wounded, 50 Military Vehicles Destroyed.

— 2,600 Enemy Soldiers Put out of Action, 80 Planes and Helicopters Downed, 160 Vehicles Destroyed in a Week.

THE patriotic forces continued attacking the enemy in this sector with a remarkable sting. In the week ending September 17, many important engagements took place, Giã Phang Premangage reported.

In a battle against a puppet para battalion along south of Tay Ninh town on Sept. 11, the P.L.A.F. put out of action 150 men including two U.S. advisers. The same day, west of the city 250 puppet Marines met with the same fate when their battalion was intercepted by the people's forces. The next day, on National Road No. 12, linking Tay Ninh to Saigon, Puum Penh Highway, an American battalion was violently intercepted: 400 men were killed or wounded and many G.I.'s killed or wounded.

On Tay Ninh — Dau Tieng road between Sept. 11 and 14, in many ambushes the P.L.A.F. inflicted 450 casualties on the enemy, destroyed 35 vehicles and downed 5 planes and helicopters.

At Thanh Dien, 4km south of Tay Ninh, on Sept. 13 and 14, two enemy battalions had 500 men put out of action.

One of the most important engagements in this period was the destruction on Sept. 13 (4th time since August 18) of Tra Phi base plan north, northeast of the town. At 1 a.m. after a heavy shelling, the storming parties penetrated deep into the U.S. defence system and killed enemy troops with hand grenades, explosives and light arms. After two hours fighting, the enemy C.P. and a U.S. mixed battalion composed of two infantry companies, one motorized infantry company, a artillery company were wiped out. Over 400 G.I.'s were put out of action and 50 vehicles

including 25 tanks and armoured cars, ten 105mm and 155mm cannons and four 100mm mortars, destroyed.

Let us recall that in these localities on August 22 and 23 Sept. 11, the P.L.A.F. wiped out 3 U.S. mixed battalions, killed, wounded or captured 1,600 G.I.'s, destroyed 200 military vehicles and over 40 big guns and mortars and downed 4 choppers.

Another brilliant exploit was achieved at Ben Cai, 24km east, southeast of Tay Ninh, near U.S. Dau Tieng base (where already on Sept. 11, the P.L.A.F. had overrun an American camp after one hour's fighting): within 24 hours another camp and 200 military vehicles and over 40 big guns and mortars and downed 4 choppers.

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supported by armoured cars, putting out of action 40 men and destroying 5 tanks.

The following day, they ambushed a strong American column of 4 battalions and an armoured convoy. At 20km from Loc Ninh, in the heart of a big rubber plantation, they wiped out an enemy company and two platoons and destroyed 10 military trucks. In the afternoon, they lured into a trap a U.S. battalion hellbent on Loc Ninh which was wiped out in a two-hour battle: 7 armoured cars were destroyed and choppers downed. The helicopter of Gen. Keith L. Ware commanding the operation of Division "Red One" was grounded and the officer was killed together with his escort.

On Sept. 13, 6km north-west of Loc Ninh, another battalion of Brigade 3 of Division "Red One" was grounded and the officer was killed together with his escort.

(Continued page 7)



Second Attack on U.S. Base at Tra Phi

Editor's Note — On their second attack on the American support base at Tra Phi, launched August 22, 1968, the P.L.A.F. put out of action an American combined battalion, wiping out 600 enemy troops, destroying 60 tanks and armoured cars and ten 105-mm and 155-mm guns. The following story recounts the battle.

A combined battalion of the U.S. 5th Infantry Division cautiously moved into Tra Phi, G.I.s started digging machine gun pits, and putting up walls of sandbags and breast concrete shields round shelters for tanks and armoured cars. They had heard fearful stories about the August 18 P.L.A.F. attack here before they came. Filled with anguish, they erected fence after fence of barbed wire entanglements around their artillery positions and tanks.

To keep up their morale, their artillery first random salvoes into neighbouring areas at regular intervals. All but shell-flares were left off and parachute flares dropped from planes, illuminating sky and earth with millions of candle-power lights. But all this could not interfere in the least with the P.L.A.F. troop movements. Waves after waves they streamed towards the American base.

In a command dugout, the head of the P.L.A.F. unit was listening on a field telephone to reports by different groups and proceeding to a final check-up.

At 00.15 hour of August 22, an order was given through the field telephone by the commander of the front. P.L.A.F. shells swooped down on American tanks and tents and guns. Following the order, assault groups rushed forward. The infantrymen were full of praise for the artillerymen,

whose deadly strikes were raising columns of fire from enemy positions, from which rose a confused uproar made up of men's cries, tank engines revving up, and frantic gunfire.

From every side P.L.A.F. assault squads closed in on the Americans. Demolition teams, clutching their B-40 bazookas, penetrated into enemy tank pits. Every time their weapons flashed, a tank or an armoured car was set ablaze. American gun emplacement and resistance units were destroyed one after another. G.I.s were moved down by bayonets. Then another wave of P.L.A.F. troops surged up, jumping on the tanks, they dropped splash charges into their hatches, blowing the men inside and blowing up their vehicles.

The P.L.A.F. men snatched each other destroying American infantry and armour. Thanh Dien, a scout, blew charges into four M-48 tanks, blowing up two bunkers and killed dozens of American aggressors.

Even wounded men continued to fight. Dashed, injured in the forehead, falling from the left arm, quickly dashed their wounds and rushed into a 105-mm gun emplacement,

where with explosive charges they destroyed 100 enemy hovertank after gunning down their crew. Tien and Nguyen, who were realising their destiny of fire, blasted their armoured cars and one troop tent apiece.

After forty minutes of combat, the P.L.A.F. troops had destroyed 100 enemy hovertank positions, gun emplacements, tank and armoured car pits. In four prongs, they charged the American command post, where all the American survivors had withdrawn.

The command post was a blockhouse built with breast concrete on the left side of the base. It was surrounded with enormous tanks and tents filled with troops. Through gun site close to the surface of the ground, heavy machine guns and 20-mm cannons poured out a steady stream of fire.

But the P.L.A.F. had devised adequate means to cope with it. Mortar crews and B-40 gunners put their weapons in rows or circles and launched a devastating barrage on the enemy bunker. Then from every side, assault troops armed with grenades, satchel charges and sub-machineguns stormed in. The Americans could only rush about in panicky impotence, like a flock of chimpanzees in a flaming cage.

At 12.15 hours on August 22, the P.L.A.F. flag, black with gunpowder, fluttered on top of the American command post at Tra Phi, where converging P.L.A.F. troops rushed amid tumultuous joy. Liberation fighters, standing on mangled enemy tanks, won of their guns and shouted enthusiastic hurrahs, while flames continued to rise from the destroyed enemy positions.

LOC NINH

— Two U.S. Battalions and 6 Companies Wiped Out, 58 Tanks and Armoured Cars Destroyed and 8 Planes and Choppers Downed.

— The General Commanding U.S. Division 1 Killed.

LOC NINH urban centre, 180km northeast of Tay Ninh, was attacked by the P.L.A.F. on the night of Sept. 10.

After a heavy artillery pounding, the P.L.A.F. assaulted the sub-sector C.P. and the camp of puppet Rangers. Early on Sept. 11, they intercepted a rescue party of 3 puppet companies